DRAGONAR
ACADEMY
11
ART BY
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STORY BY
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WELCOME HOME...
MEOW-STER! ♡

Chapter 1
Amya's Return

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Amya's Return

A...
ANYA?! IS IT REALLY YOU?!

HUH?!
Student Dining Hall La Tenu

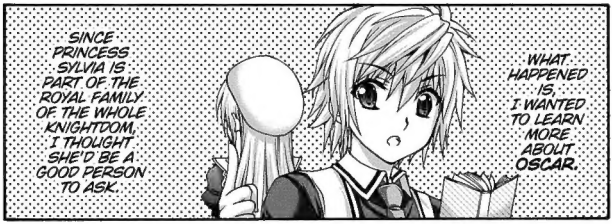
A-ASH BLAKE AND ECO, THE YOUNG DRAGON... AND EVEN PRINCESS SYLVIA?! MEOW!
EEEEP!
LIM... WHY'RE YOU TALKING LIKE THAT?
LIKE A CAT?

BLUSH
HUH ...?
W-WAIT...
YOU GUYS?!

W-WELL...
BLUUSH
MY BOSS SAID IT'S MANDATORY RIGHT NOW...
IT'S A THING THE DINING HALL'S DOING FOR FUN.
.....
NYAN
MEOW~!♥
WHAM
URK --!!
WHAT THE HECK WAS THAT FOR?!
THAT HURT!
IT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR STARING AND DROOLING OVER HER LIKE THAT!
YES, EXACTLY!
HAH?!
OH, PLEASE! YOU'RE THE ONE COPYING ME!
B-BUT YOU NEED TO STOP SHARING MY EXACT OPINIONS THAT WAY!
UM...

IT'S N-NONE OF YOUR CONCERN. DON'T GIVE IT ANOTHER THOUGHT.
HMPH! IT'S NOTHING AT ALL!
MUTTER.

IS SOME-THING WRONG?
YOU ALL GOT SO TENSE SUDDENLY.
FUNNY YOU SHOULD ASK--


SINCE PRINCESS SYLVIA IS PART OF THE ROYAL FAMILY OF THE WHOLE KNIGHTDOM, I THOUGHT SHE'D BE A GOOD PERSON TO ASK.
WHAT HAPPENED IS, I WANTED TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OSCAR.

YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT OSCAR?
W-WELL, IN THAT CASE...

AND, THAT MADE IT WAY HARDER THAN USUAL TO TRY TO STARTING A CONVER-SATION WITH HER. BUT THEN SHE SAID...
BUT THERE WAS THAT WHOLE KISS THING THE OTHER DAY...

AND THAT'S WHY THINGS ARE SO AWKWARD RIGHT NOW.
THEN ECO INVITED HERSELF ALONG, OF COURSE...
THAT'S WHAT HAP-PENED.
WHY DON'T WE HAVE LUNCH TOGETHER...
ASH?
YOU WERE BEING INTERRO-GATED BY THE KNIGHT-DOM!
THE BIGGER QUESTION IS, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?! LAST I HEARD...
WELL, UM...!
SHE WAS LOOKING FOR A PLACE I COULD STAY LONG-TERM.
I WOUND UP AT THE CAPITAL FOR A WHILE, WHERE A GIRL NAMED AYDOCHA KEPT AN EYE ON ME.
FOR SOME REASON, PRINCESS VERONICA OPTED TO PARDON ME.

IT'S STRANGE TO THINK OF MY SISTER MAKING ARRANGEMENTS LIKE THAT.
NEVER MIND GETTING AVDOCHA, OF ALL PEOPLE, TO KEEP TABS ON YOU.

THEN MY BOSS HERE STEPPED IN AND SPOKE UP FOR ME.
I SEE.

THEY WERE WONDERFUL TO ME, REALLY!
THEY TREATED ME ALMOST LIKE FAMILY.
D-DID THEY, NOW?

AW, C'MON, ECO! THE PAST IS THE PAST.
I'M REALLY SORRY ...!

OH, WHATEVER! I DISAPPROVE!
I'M SURE NEVER GONNA FORGET THE WAY YOU CHASED ME ALL OVER THE CAPITAL! SO THERE!
URK ...!

NOT THAT I THINK...
YOU'LL FORGIVE WHAT I DID JUST BECAUSE I APOLOGIZE, BUT...

BECAUSE I CAN'T HELP FEELING THAT EVERYTHING THAT WAS SET IN MOTION A YEAR AGO...
STARTING WITH MEETING MY SLEEPYHEAD STEED HERE, HAPPENED BECAUSE I MET YOU IN THE FOREST, ANYA.
ACTUALLY, IF ANYTHING, I'M GRATEFUL TO YOU.
YOU ARE?
WHY?
ALL OF OUR FATES WERE SET IN MOTION BACK THEN, YOU KNOW?
AND THAT WAS ALSO WHEN I MET MILGAUSS-- PRINCE JULIUS.
YOU TOO, HUH?
SHEESH.
I MEAN, IF WE'RE ALL LOOKING AT IT IN HINDSIGHT.
IF WE HADN'T ALL MET, MAYBE MY BROTHER WOULD NEVER HAVE COME BACK TO US.
THAT CERTAINLY SOUNDS RIGHT TO ME.

OH, FINE. I GUESS I HAVE TO GO ALONG-- THIS ONCE!
IF YOU BRING ME SOME INCREDIBLY DELICIOUS MEAT, I SUPPOSE I COULD BRING MYSELF TO FORGIVE YOU!
R...
BEAM
REALLY ...?!!

I'LL BRING YOU SOME-THING AMAZING RIGHT AWAY!
I'LL BE BACK IN A FEW MINUTES! MEOW!
DASH
THANK YOU FOR WAITING!
じゃん
VOILA!
YOUR GRILLED LAMB IS READY! ☆

OOO-OOOH! ♡
IT LOOKS SO GOOD! IT SMELLS EVEN TASTIER!
I'M GONNA DIG IN!
ACK!
YOU CAN'T SWALLOW IT WHOLE! I'LL CUT IT UP FOR YOU! GIVE ME JUST A SEC...!
MM-MMM! ♡ IT'S SOOO GOOD~! ♡
HMM? PRINCESS? AREN'T YOU GOING TO EAT?
O-OH, UM...
WELL...
COSETTE ISN'T HERE RIGHT NOW, SO...
I...

HANG ON.
I'LL CUT IT UP FOR YOU, THEN.
OH, I SEE.
HEH!
!
HERE YOU GO, PRIN-CESS!
BLUUSH
TH...
THANK YOU.

HM? WHAT'S THE MATTER, ECO?
I WANT SOME MORE ...!
STAR!
IMPRESSIVE! I ADMIT I DISMISSED THE FOOD HERE AS PEDESTRIAN DINING HALL FARE...
BUT I'D SAY THIS WOULD EASILY GET A THREE-STAR RATING.
URK!
OSCAR ...!!

TCH!
WE'RE BOTH STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS, AREN'T WE?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
HA HA! COME, NOW, THERE'S NO NEED TO LOSE YOUR TEMPER.
AND...
FLINCH
Ah, there we go.
I FELT LIKE HAVING A LITTLE CHAT WITH ALL OF YOU.
ALL DRAGONS LOVE MEAT!!!
I LOVE IT!!!
OF COURSE!
WELL...
CLATTER
Hmph!
HEY! WHO GAVE YOU PERMISSION TO SIT BESIDE ME?!
A MEAT FAN, ARE YOU, YOUNG DRAGON?
IT'S ALL YOU HAVE ON YOUR PLATE.

IF YOU AND I WERE FRIENDS...
I'D TREAT YOU TO UNIMAGINABLY DELICIOUS CHEVRON BEEF STEAK-- EVERY SINGLE DAY, IF YOU LIKED.
HOW DOES THAT SOUND?
YOU'D HAVE TO AT LEAST INCLUDE SOME SUPER-TENDER BEEF RIBS!!
GRR!
OTHERWISE, NO WAY! NOT A CHANCE!
THERE'D BE PLENTY OF THAT TOO, OF COURSE.
THONK
THAT'S COMPLETELY RIDICULOUS! YOU'RE SERIOUSLY TRYING TO BRIBE HER WITH MEAT?
YEAH! WHAT WERE YOU THINK-ING?!

I-I'M JUST KIDDING!
I WAS JUST PLAYING ALONG, OKAY?
DROOL
DROOL
ECO !!!

AFTER THAT TREMEN-DOUS MESS YOU CAUSED?
BUT AREN'T YOU CONFINED TO YOUR QUARTERS FOR TWO WEEKS...
FORGIVE ME IF I'M WRONG, OSCAR...

STOMP
WHA...?!
I... YOU-- UGH!
OUR SCHOOL IS AWFULLY KIND TO LOSERS, HMM?
OH, REALLY? BUT HERE YOU ARE, GOING ABOUT YOUR ROUTINE SINCE LOSING TO ME.
ANYA, HEAD OF THE TANTAROS TRIBE...
OR...
THAT'S RIGHT. YOU CAN STAY OUT OF THINGS THAT DON'T CONCERN YOU...
I-I'M SORRY, BUT YOU SHOULDN'T TALK TO HER HIGHNESS THAT WAY--!
NO, ANYA, IT'S OKAY!
!!
USING YOUR REAL NAME? "SHAMALA KILTZKAYA," ISN'T IT?
SHOULD I BE...

CLATTER
LUNGE
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?!
OH, I HAVE MY WAYS.
AFTER TAKING A PLEA BARGAIN, YOU WERE ACQUITTED OF YOUR CRIMES AND GIVEN A PLACE HERE.
I'M THE FUTURE KING OF CHEVRON.
IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT I HAVE EYES AND EARS EVERYWHERE.

ANYA.
GO BACK INTO THE KITCHEN FOR NOW. I WON'T LET HIM MAKE MORE TROUBLE OUT HERE.
A- ALL RIGHT.

MURMUR MURMUR
THE REAL QUESTION IS ARE YOU OKAY WITH...
HAVING ABRUPTLY LOST THE PLACE YOU'D FINALLY MADE FOR YOURSELF?

SO...
SHALL WE CONTINUE OUR LITTLE TALK?

.....
YOU'RE SO RELAXED ABOUT ALL THIS, AREN'T YOU?

NOPE.
WE'RE DONE TALKING.
WE DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU OR THE KINGDOM OF CHEVRON.

WHAT?
GIVEN HOW MUCH POWER YOU HAVE...
DO YOU REALLY THINK IT'S ACCEPTABLE FOR YOU TO NEVER PAY ATTENTION TO THE WIDER WORLD OUT THERE?

LISTEN, WILL YOU?
CHEVRON'S CURRENT KING...
IS ENTIRELY AWARE OF WHO AND WHAT ECO REALLY IS.
AND IT'S NOT ONLY HIM.
PLENTY OF MEMBERS OF THE CHEVRON NOBILITY KNOW, TOO.
!
SO? WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH ANY-THING?
YOUR KINGDOM AND OUR KNIGHT-DOM ARE ALLIES!
INDEED WE ARE.
AND LIKE A KNIGHT WITH A LIEGE LORD...
THE KNIGHTDOM HAS A LONG HISTORY OF SERVING CHEVRON.
IF TWO FRIENDLY NATIONS BOTH HAVE THE SAME INFORMATION, WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
AND THAT'S WHY I'M SAYING YOU'RE COMFORT-ABLE IN YOUR IGNORANCE.
YOU HAVE NO COMPREHENSION OF HOW THAT ALLEGIANCE YOU'RE BABBLING ABOUT IS A SOURCE OF FEAR FOR OTHER NATIONS.

!!!

RECALL, IF YOU WILL, HOW ECO AWAKENED AND WENT BERSERK IN FONTAINE, ENDANGERING THE LIVES OF MANY WORLD LEADERS.
NATURALLY, THE NATIONS THEY LEAD ARE NOW AFRAID AND WORRIED. THEY WONDER WHAT KIND OF FANGS YOUR KNIGHTDOM MIGHT BE HIDING BEHIND YOUR "ALLEGIANCE."

IN THESE TROUBLED TIMES, IT JUST SERVES TO MAKE OTHER NATIONS EVEN MORE SUSPI-CIOUS.
IN THE PAST, YOUR CHARMINGLY PURE LOYALTY WOULD HAVE MEANT MORE.

BUT THAT'S NON-SENSE!
THIS KNIGHTDOM'S LOYALTY TO YOUR NATION IS STEADFAST! WE'LL NEVER LET IT BE SHAKEN!!

THERE'S ONE MORE THING I NEED TO SAY.
BUT THAT'S NO REASON TO--

AND WHAT'S THAT?
IT'S ABOUT ECO.
THERE'S A TALE I'VE HEARD BANDIED ABOUT.
PEOPLE SAY THAT SIPPING THE LIFEBLOOD OF A HOLY DRAGON OF AVALON...
GRANTS THE DRINKER IMMORTALITY.
HUH?!
THE LIFEBLOOD?!
SHIVER...
WHA...?
IT'S A LEGEND PASSED DOWN AMONG THE PEOPLE OF CHEVRON.
THAT BLOOD IS BELIEVED TO BE A SECRET ELIXIR THAT GRANTS ETERNAL LIFE.
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
I'M A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL FAMILY, AND I'VE NEVER HEARD SUCH A THING!

TO MOST PEOPLE, IT'S CLEARLY JUST A FAIRY TALE.
YOU'RE NOT WRONG.
HOW-EVER...
I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT THE CURRENT KING OF CHEVRON, ZACHARIAS III, ACCEPTS IT AS GOSPEL TRUTH.
I'M TOLD HE'S TAKEN TO RUMMAGING THROUGH HIS BOOKS LIKE A MAN POSSESSED, DESPERATELY SEARCHING FOR A WAY TO LIVE FOREVER. HE'S GRASPING AT ANY STRAW HE FINDS.
HE'S OBSESSED WITH HIS OWN FADING HEALTH. IT'S ALL HE THINKS ABOUT NOW.
WHAT ?!
HE'S QUITE OLD, YOU SEE.

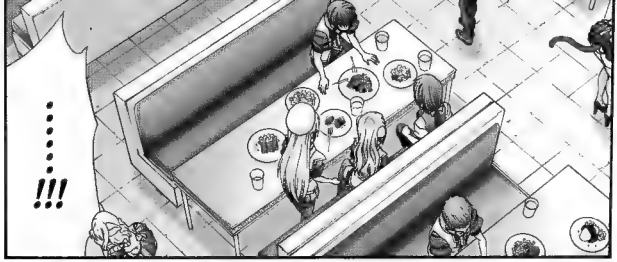
AND ONE SUCH STRAW ...
IS THE TRUTH ABOUT ECO'S BIRTH.
AND SO--
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?!!
A SECRET ELIXIR THAT GRANTS IMMORTALITY?! THAT'S THE STUPIDEST THING I'VE EVER HEARD!!
AND BESIDES, THE MOTHER DRAGON HERSELF DIDN'T EVEN HINT ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT!!!
THE MOTHER DRAGON LOVES ECO SO MUCH! I CAN'T SEE HER FAILING TO TELL ME ABOUT A DANGER LIKE THAT!
HMM, YES.
THAT ALL SOUNDS VERY REASONABLE.
BESIDES, I DON'T RECALL HEARING ABOUT EVEN ONE INDIVIDUAL ATTAINING SAID IMMORTALITY IN ALL THE LONG HISTORY OF THE CONTINENT.
IT SEEMS OBVIOUS THAT IMMORTALITY IS JUST A LEGEND.

I PERSONALLY KNOW OF A BRILLIANT, HIGHLY CAPABLE MAN LIKE THAT.
HIS NAME IS URIEL.
BUT OLD AGE CHANGES A PERSON, AND A CHANGED KING CAN CHANGE A NATION.
EVEN IF IT'S CLEAR TO US THAT THE KING'S BELIEFS ARE JUST AN OLD MAN'S RAMBLINGS, THERE ARE PEOPLE IN CHEVRON WHO'D GLADLY USE HIS DELUSIONS TO THEIR OWN ADVANTAGE.

AND HIS AMBITION GOES FURTHER STILL-- HE PLANS TO RULE THE ENTIRE CONTINENT ONE DAY.
HE'S THE THIRD PRINCE OF CHEVRON, AND DEEPLY AMBITIOUS. HE'S AIMING TO TAKE THE THRONE THROUGH HIS OWN CUNNING.

I BELIEVE HE'LL DESTROY THE TRADITIONAL POWER STRUCTURE AND TAKE PERSONAL CONTROL OF THE DRAGON TRIBE.
WHAT?!
IF A MAN LIKE THAT CLAIMS THE THRONE, WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE WOULD HAPPEN, HMM?
TO START WITH, HE'D UNDOUBTEDLY ANNEX LALITREAMONT INTO CHEVRON.

AND IN TURN...
GRIP
CRIK
HE'D CHALLENGE THE FULL MIGHT OF THE ZEPHAROS EMPIRE, WITH ALL ITS MECHANICAL FORCE.
AND WHAT'S MORE...
THAT WOULD MEAN THE WHOLE WORLD BEING SWALLOWED UP BY WAR.


!!!

WAR ...?!!

A... WORLD...

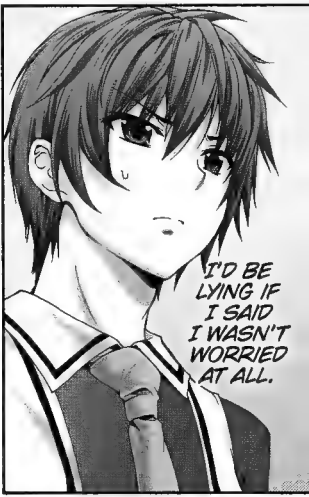
REMEMBER I HAVE MY OWN STEED--- TRISTAN.
YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT.
SNYUU...
I HAVE QUITE A SOFT SPOT FOR THIS COUNTRY OF HIS.
AS IF THE DRAGON TRIBE WOULD LET CHEVRON TAKE CONTROL! I DON'T THINK SO!!
UM, WHAT?! DON'T BE RIDICU-LOUS!!
STOMP

OSCAR ...
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH BY TELLING US ALL OF THIS?
ISN'T IT OBVI-OUS?
I WANT TO BE THE NEXT KING OF CHEVRON!
IF AND WHEN I TAKE THE THRONE, I'LL GUARANTEE ECO'S SAFETY...
AND PROMISE TO MAINTAIN THE ALLIANCE BETWEEN CHEVRON AND YOUR KNIGHT-DOM!
ARE YOU SERI-OUS?
.....
HEH!
I CER-TAINLY AM!
OSCAR!
WHAM
HEY! OSCAR !!
HMM?
LOOKS LIKE SOME-ONE'S COME TO FETCH ME.

CELE...
KYUUU
CELES, I DON'T THINK THAT'S HOW YOU SHOULD TREAT YOUR LORD AND MASTER.
AND I THINK EVERYONE'S ABUZZ BECAUSE OF YOU.
MUTTER MUTTER
OW-WW...
SHUT YOUR MOUTH!
THIS WHOLE PLACE IS WHISPERING ABOUT YOU!
USH.
WHAT'VE YOU BEEN UP TO NOW?
WELL?

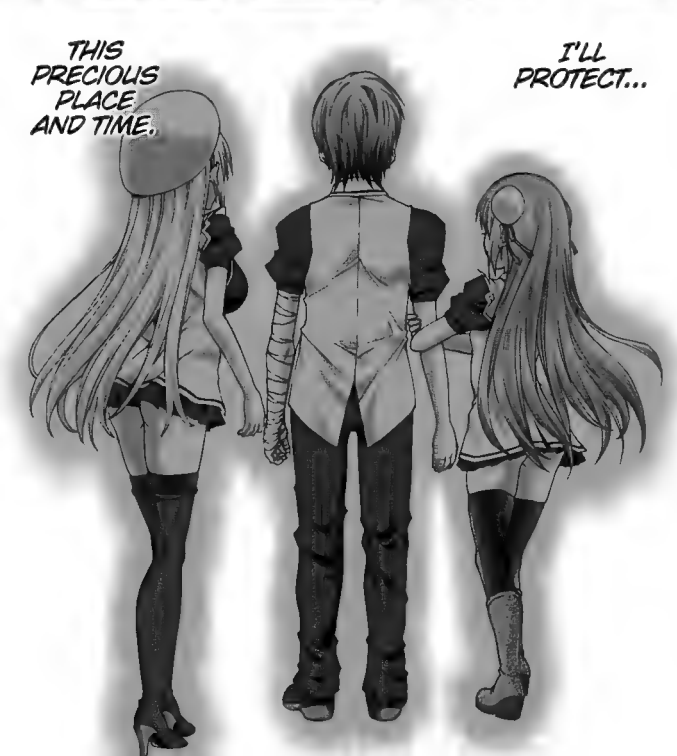
DRAG
DRAG
DON'T YOU DARE TALK BACK TO ME!!
WE'RE LEAVING, MAGGOT !!!
Ack..!
"MAG-GOT" ...?!
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME...
.....
A WORLD WAR ...?
CLENCH
THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NO WAY I'D EVER LET SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPEN...!
CLUTCH
PRIN-CESS...
ECO...

I'LL DO WHAT YOU ASKED OF ME, MOTHER DRAGON.
BUT, I SWEAR...


I'D BE LYING IF I SAID I WASN'T WORRIED AT ALL.

I SWEAR...
CLENCH
NO MATTER WHAT DARKNESS IS CLOSING IN...

AND EVERYONE ELSE.
I'LL PROTECT ECO...


THIS PRECIOUS PLACE AND TIME.
I'LL PROTECT...

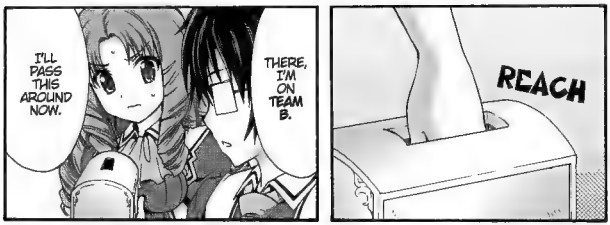
DRAGONAR
ACADEMY

ALL RIGHT, EVERY-ONE.
NOW THAT WE'RE ALL HERE, LET ME OUTLINE OUR DUTIES TODAY.
Chapter 11
The Chevron Royal Family's Key Requirement ①
AS YOU KNOW, A LONG-DISTANCE RACE WILL BE HELD DURING THE 500-YEAR FESTIVAL.
IT WILL FOLLOW THE COURSE USED DURING THE DRAGONAR FESTIVAL OF ARIES...
WHICH MEANS THE HALFWAY POINT WILL BE IN THE FOREST OF FIANA.

TODAY, WE'LL BE GOING INTO THE FOREST...
AND PLACING THIS BEAST-REPELLING MAGIC INCENSE THROUGHOUT IT.
THE FOREST IS HOME TO MANY DANGEROUS CREATURES SUCH AS BASILISKS...
AND LATELY, THERE'VE BEEN MULTIPLE REPORTS OF TWO-HEADED SNAKES.
IT'S A RISKY PROCESS, SO WE'LL BE WORKING IN THREE TEAMS TO GET IT DONE...
I WOULD JUST LOOOOOVE TO BE ON A TEAM WITH ASH-- JUST THE TWO OF US! ♡
HUH ?!
RAISE
OOOH! I HAVE SOME-THING TO SAY!!
THAT'S SO SELF-ISH!
YEAH!
ASH IS MY KNIGHT, REMEM-BER?!

UM... I...
BLUSH
I'D LIKE TO BE WITH ASH AS WELL...
YOU TOO ?!
GUYS, COME ON.
IS IT REALLY WORTH ARGUING OVER...?
GLARE
HEE! IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE WE'LL BE SETTLING TEAMS EASILY.
BUT I SUSPECTED IT WOULD GO THIS WAY, SO I PREPARED SOME LOTS FOR YOU TO ALL DRAW FROM, TO MAKE THINGS FAIR.

TEAM A WILL HAVE THREE PEOPLE, AND TEAMS B AND C WILL EACH HAVE TWO.
OF COURSE.
MAX, YOU'RE UP.
LOTS, HUH?


I'LL PASS THIS AROUND NOW.
THERE, I'M ON TEAM B.
REACH

SHRIEK SHRIEK
OH, JUST HURRY UP AND DRAW A LOT!
I'M GETTING TO IT!

I BEG YOU, GRANT ME AND ASH A SWEET MOMENT IN THE FOREST TOGETHER...
OH, SAINT ROSA MARIA...

JESSICA, YOU'RE ON TEAM B.
YOU'LL BE WORKING WITH MAX.
.....
GRRR!
DEJECTED...
OH, GET OVER IT. HAND THE BOX TO THE NEXT PERSON, JESSICA.
I'M ON TEAM A.
.....
RUMMAGE
I CAN'T SAY ANYTHING UNTIL ASH DRAWS HIS LOT, BUT...
ECO, YOU ALSO DREW TEAM A.
?
THAT MEANS I'M WITH HER, HUH?
BUT THIS IS GONNA BE THE THREE-PERSON TEAM...

YOU'RE UP!
SMIRK
OKAY, ASH.
WOOOOOOSH

AWW, CRAP...
RUMMAGE
RUMMAGE
WHY ARE SO MANY MURDEROUS EYES FIXED ON ME WHEN ALL I'M DOING IS TAKING A LOT?!

DEEP IN THE FOREST...
JUST ME AND HIM, ALL ALONE OUT THERE...

IF... IF ASH AND I END UP BEING A GROUP OF JUST TWO...
BATHMP
BATHMP
BATHMP

AHH! WHAT THE HECK AM I THINKING?!
OH.
IT...
LOOKS LIKE I'M ON...
TEAM C.
C
GAH...
SLUMP
OH HO HO!
WHY, YOU --!!
YOU'RE MY KNIGHT! YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE ON TEAM A THROUGH SHEER WILLPOWER!
BUT THAT'S IMPOSSI-BLE!
THAT BRINGS US TO YOU, SYLVIA.
GIVE IT ALL YOU'VE GOT AND DRAW TEAM C!
O-OH NO...
UM...
LOOKS LIKE IT'S ALL DECIDED!

GLOOM...
LET'S GET STARTED!

TEAM A IS ECO, LUCCA, AND SYLVIA.
AND ASH AND I ARE TEAM C!
TEAM B IS MAX AND JESSICA.

GRAOUN!!

THE FOREST OF FIANA.
BRING US DOWN OVER THERE, CÚCHULAINN.

I'M WORKING WITH REBECCA, SO...
I HAVE TO DO MY BEST SO I DON'T HOLD HER BACK!

SHALL WE?
CAREFUL NOT TO BREAK THAT INCENSE, ALL RIGHT?
THE FOREST OF FIANA, HUH? IT'S BEEN SUCH A LONG TIME.
.....!!
THIS AREA'S FAMILIAR.
AND RIGHT DOWN THERE IS WHERE ECO WAS BORN...
WHERE WE FIRST SPOKE TO EACH OTHER!
WOW, THIS BRINGS BACK MEMORIES.
RUSTLE
A RE-CHARGING RELAY CAST LIKE THIS EXISTS!
ARE YOU THE ONE WHO EXERCISES MILGAUSS?
YOU HAVE GOOD INSTINCTS, BOY.
WHAT, TO ME?
AND WHAT DO YOU WISH TO DO?
UGH...
TMP...
TMP...
THIS IS WHERE I FIRST MET ANYA AND MILGAUSS...
WHAT'S THE MATTER, ASH?
YOU SEEM A LITTLE PRE-OCCUPIED.
OH, N-NO!

IT'S TOTALLY UNDER-STANDABLE IF YOU'RE HAVING SOME NAUGHTY FANTASIES ABOUT BEING ALONE WITH THEM HERE.
THEY'VE BOTH CONFESSED THEIR FEELINGS FOR YOU.
N-NAUGHTY ...?!
WERE YOU THINKING OF ECO OR SYLVIA, BY ANY CHANCE?
NO, I.... UM...
NO NEED TO HIDE IT.
BUT SINCE WE'RE HERE, WHY NOT TRYING IMAGINING ME IN THOSE LITTLE DREAMS INSTEAD, HMM?
BUT...
POOR YOU! YOU'RE STUCK OUT HERE ALONE WITH ME INSTEAD.
WHAT, I'M TOO UNATTAIN-ABLE?
I ADMIT IT MAKES ME HAPPY THAT YOU RESPECT ME SO HIGHLY...
CLOK
I-I'M NOT REMOTELY WORTHY OF EVEN IMAGINING THAT!
WAIT !!
ABSOLUTELY NOT!!
NO!!
YOU'RE THE SCARLET EM-PRESS!
HUH ...?
DAYDREAM COMMENCING
With Rebecca instead ...?

HUH ...?
SA-THMP
SAD FOR A WOMAN ...?
ASH!
LEAN
UM ...?
A BIT SAD FOR A WOMAN TO HEAR.
BUT IT'S STILL...
FWOOO

HUH?
R-REBECCA ...?
I CAN FEEL....
THE HEAT OF HER BODY...
BA-THMP
BA-THMP
BA-THMP
!!
JAH-WHUD

TCH-WHUD

HUH?
R-REBECCA ...?
I CAN FEEL....
THE HEAT OF HER BODY...
!!
BA-THUMP
BA-THUMP
BA-THUMP

SEE IT...?
IT'S BEHIND US.
KEEP QUIET.
SLITHER
!!!
HOW THE HECK AM I SUPPOSED TO HOLD MY BREATH LIKE THIS...?!
TH-THIS IS IMPOSSI-BLE!
HOLD YOUR BREATH AND TRY NOT TO MOVE AT ALL.
YOU CAN DO THAT, RIGHT?

?!
REBECCA ...?!
I-I'M SORRY, BUT...
YOU'RE BEING AWFULLY FORWARD AT A TIME LIKE THIS, AREN'T YOU?
TWITCH
NNH ...!
I WAS TRYING SO HARD TO HOLD MY BREATH THAT I ACCIDENTALLY GRABBED---!
NOOO!!
OH NO ...!
I-I'M SO SORRY!
HUH?!
AA-AAH?!!
ACK!!

LOOKS LIKE IT LEFT!
MM-HMM.

SLITHER

BUT YOU REACTED JUST LIKE I WOULD'VE EXPECTED, REBECCA.
YOU'RE SO AWARE OF YOUR ENVIRONMENT, AND YOU THINK SO FAST! IF I'D BEEN HERE ALONE, WHO KNOWS WHAT WOULD'VE HAPPENED...

CLUTCH
HUH ?!
U-UM ...!

.....

WHAT'RE YOU...?
RE-BECCA...
I HOPE YOU'LL HEAR ME OUT WITHOUT LAUGH-ING.
HUH ...?
SINCE YOU'RE SO FOR-WARD...
I'M STILL A TEENAGE GIRL.
YOU KNOW, YOU'RE FAR FROM THE FIRST PERSON TO PRAISE ME FOR BEING COOL OR STRONG.
I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU SOMETHING WHILE WE'RE HERE.
ONCE IN A WHILE, I THINK IT WOULD ALSO BE LOVELY TO BE CALLED ... CUTE, OR SOME-THING LIKE THAT.
AND I WON'T SAY THAT'S EVER MADE ME FEEL BAD OR ANYTHING, BUT...

DO... DO YOU THINK IT'S STRANGE...
FOR ME TO FEEL THAT WAY...?
HA HA...
BUT I GUESS A WORD LIKE THAT DOESN'T REALLY SUIT ME, DOES IT?
.....!
TH...
THAT'S NOT TRUE !!!
BA-THMP

YEAH! REALLY!
LOOKING AT YOU RIGHT NOW, YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY CUTE!
.....!
REALLY?
WOULD YOU...
.....!
SAY THAT... JUST ONE MORE TIME?

HEE!
HA...
HA HA HA!
SERI-OUSLY...
YOU'RE INCRED-IBLY CUTE!!!
THANK YOU, ASH.
THAT WAS ALL RATHER SELFISH OF ME, I THINK.
I GUESS EVEN THE SCARLET EMPRESS ISN'T IMMUNE TO THE FOREST'S SPELL, HUH?

WE'VE GOTTEN RATHER SIDE-TRACKED.
LET'S GET BACK TO WORK.
IS THE INCENSE SAFE?
OH, UH... YES.
THAT'S GOOD.
HUH? BUT...
IF WE'D USED THIS...
NOW THEN...
WE COULD'VE EASILY FENDED THAT SNAKE OFF, COULDN'T WE?
ALL RIGHT!
SHALL WE MOVE QUICKLY, ASH?
THIS IS THE LAST ONE WE HAVE TO SET OUT.

BUT IT WAS KINDA TIRING, WASN'T IT?
OUR WORK HERE IS DONE!
FSSSH...
WELL, WE'VE CERTAINLY BEEN DOING A LOT OF WALKING.
.....
SHUFFLE
WHY DON'T YOU REST A LITTLE UNTIL I GET BACK?
I'M GOING TO CHECK IN ON HOW CÚCHULAINN'S DOING.
THANKS FOR TODAY.

.....
I FEEL LIKE...
REBECCA AND I GOT A LITTLE CLOSER TODAY.
BUT SHE REALLY IS WAY OUT OF MY LEAGUE!
MY HEART'S STILL POUND-ING.
BA-THMP
BA-THMP
HYOOOSH
?!
ACK!
THWACK!
RECOIL
HUH? CLOTH?! WHAT THE HECK?!
WHY'S THERE SOME PIECE OF CLOTH WAY OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FOREST...?!

UH...
WAIT, IS THIS ...?
WHY THE HECK WOULD A PAIR OF UNDERWEAR FLY AT ME?!
A GIRL'S UNDER-WEAR, NO LESS...!
I FEEL LIKE... THERE'S SOMEONE NEARBY?
DO I HEAR WATER?
SPLISH
!

AND SOME-ONE'S OUT THERE?
A LAKE ...?

SPLISH

SPLASH

SPLAAASH

ARRGHHH!
HUH?!
TH-THAT'S A GIRL, SELF! STOP STARING!
WH-WHAT THE HECK AM I LOOKING AT?!
AND WHAT A BEAUTIFUL BODY SHE HAS!!
SUCH GORGEOUS BLACK HAIR...

GIGANTIC MAE-STRO...!
IT'S SUCH A...

A DRAGON?
DOES IT BELONG TO THAT GIRL...?

WAIT !!!
NO...

A HUGE DRAGON, AS MASSIVE AS CUCHULAINN...
THOSE CURLED HORNS AND THAT BLACK STONE IN THE CENTER OF ITS FOREHEAD...
IT'S BIZARRE, BUT THERE'S NO DOUBT
THAT I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE

THAT DRAGON...
JUST RECENTLY...

WAIT— THEN DOES THAT MEAN...
THAT THE GIRL OVER THERE IS...

NO WAY ...!!!
HE'S... OSCAR IS...A GIRL?!

REBEC-CA?

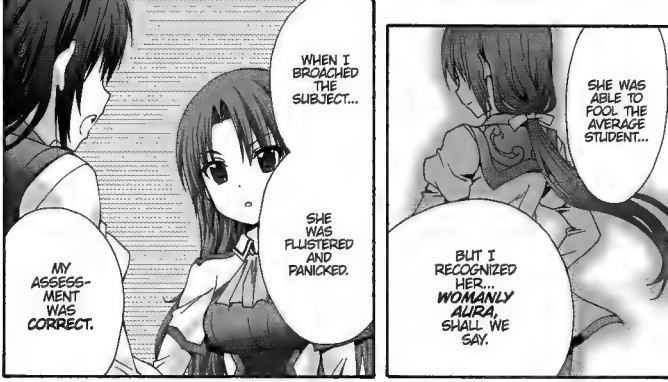
SIGH...
SOMEONE OTHER THAN ME HAS FINALLY SEEN, HMM?

WH-WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON?
THAT JERK OSCAR-- IS HE REALLY--?!
THAT'S RIGHT. HE'S A GIRL.

I'LL FILL YOU IN ON...
I GUESS THERE'S NO POINT TRYING TO HIDE IT NOW.
YES, I DID.
AND YOU KNEW?
THE TRUTH ABOUT OSCAR BRAILS-FORD.

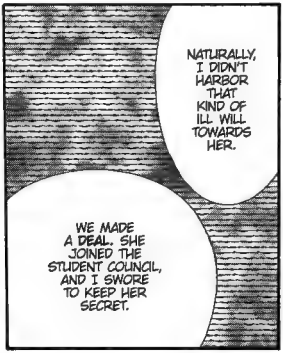
DRAGONAR
ACADEMY

I FIRST REALIZED THAT OSCAR WAS A GIRL...
SHORTLY AFTER SHE ENROLLED AT THE ACADEMY.
Chapter 111
The Chevron Royal Family's Key Requirement ②
SHE WAS SUCH AN EXCELLENT STUDENT THAT I WANTED HER TO JOIN THE STUDENT COUNCIL.
AND AFTER WE'D SPOKEN A FEW TIMES...
I STARTED TO PICK UP ON THE FAINT TRACES OF FEMININITY THAT SHE COULDN'T ENTIRELY SUPPRESS.


WHEN I BROACHED THE SUBJECT...
SHE WAS FLUSTERED AND PANICKED.
MY ASSESS-MENT WAS CORRECT.
SHE WAS ABLE TO FOOL THE AVERAGE STUDENT...
BUT I RECOGNIZED HER... WOMANLY AURA, SHALL WE SAY.

IF THE TRUTH ABOUT HER GENDER WERE KNOWN, HER DREAMS OF TAKING THE THRONE WOULD EVAPORATE.
BUT THERE IS ONE UNSHAKABLE REQUIREMENT FOR ANY PROSPECTIVE KING OF CHEVRON: THE CANDIDATE ABSOLUTELY MUST BE MALE.

"I KNOW! WHY DON'T I MAKE YOU MY QUEEN?!
"BEING THE FUTURE KING OF CHEVRON'S QUEEN DOESN'T SOUND BAD, DOES IT?!"
AND THERE WAS SOME-THING ELSE...


NATURALLY, I DIDN'T HARBOR THAT KIND OF ILL WILL TOWARDS HER.
WE MADE A DEAL. SHE JOINED THE STUDENT COUNCIL, AND I SWORE TO KEEP HER SECRET.

OHH, SO THAT'S WHY.
MM. SINCE I KNEW HER SECRET, SHE WANTED TO KEEP ME IN CHECK, HENCE THE PROPOSAL. IT WAS NEVER ABOUT ANY SORT OF ROMANTIC FEELINGS.
AND SO YOU SEE, OSCAR'S ONLY PATH TO WINNING THE CROWN...
REQUIRES HER TO REJECT AND BURY EVERY SIGN THAT SHE'S A WOMAN.
HEY --!
THWUF
WHO'S THERE ?!

THWACK
!!!
RUSTLE
HEH!
THERE'S NO POINT IN STAYING HIDDEN NOW, IS THERE?
!
OH, IT'S YOU, REBECCA.

I SUPPOSE THERE'S NO PROBLEM, THEN.
RUUSTLE
RUUSTLE
BUT WHAT BRINGS YOU ALL THE WAY OUT HERE?
HUH ...?
WHA ...
BLUSH
UGH
THUD
AAAAAAAHHHHH!!

SNARL!
I THINK THE STRANGEST PART IS THAT YOU'RE OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE PLAYING AROUND IN THE WATER...
LIKE I HAVE A CHOICE --!
IT'S NOT...
FIRST REBECCA FINDS OUT, AND NOW ASH BLAKE KNOWS TOO?!
HOW COULD I BE SO CARE-LESS ...?!
DAAAAAAAAH?!
WHY IS THIS HAPPEN-ING?!!
YOU MEAN YOU'VE BEEN COMING ALL THE WAY HERE TO BATHE?
EXACTLY.
BLUUUSH
OH YEAH, I GUESS NOT...
THE BATHING AREAS IN THE BOYS' DORMS ARE SHARED! I CAN'T USE THOSE!

THAT'S A TERRIBLE PLAN!
THERE'S NO OTHER CHOICE! YOU HAVE TO DIE!
THEN YOU'LL FORGET EVERYTHING YOU'VE SEEN!
WELL, IF YOU WON'T DIE, THEN...
JUST SHUT UP, WILL YOU?!
BUT WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST GET THAT SCARY MAID WITH THE EYE PATCH TO KEEP WATCH FOR YOU OR SOMETHING?
BECOME MY QUEEN !!!
HUH ?!
YOUR QUEEN ?!
YES! THAT'S PERFECT!
IT'S SUCH A TIDY SOLUTION, DON'T YOU THINK?! IF A BOY DISGUISED AS A GIRL MARRIES A GIRL DISGUISED AS A BOY, THEY CAN EVEN HAVE AN HEIR TOGETHER! THAT TAKES CARE OF ALL THE LOOSE ENDS!!

NO MATTER HOW INCREDIBLE REBECCA IS, WE'RE STILL BOTH GIRLS, SO WE CAN'T HAVE CHILDREN TOGETHER!
YES, THIS IS CLEARLY THE WAY TO GO
HOW THE HECK DID YOU GET TO THAT CONCLUSION?!
I'M NOT GOING ALONG WITH IT!
BUT YOU'D HAVE THE HONOR OF BEING THE SECOND QUEEN, SEE?! IT'S A SWEET DEAL!
THE SECOND QUEEN?! THEN WHO'D BE FIRST?!
REBECCA, OBVIOUSLY!

OKAY, NO MORE UNILATERAL DECISIONS FOR YOU!
STOP AND LISTEN TO OTHER PEOPLE FOR A SEC!
INCH...
HEH! NOT TO WORRY. OUR TRADITIONAL ROLES AS MAN AND WIFE WOULD BE REVERSED, BUT...

WHAT KIND OF "CONNECTION" ARE YOU IMAGINING?!
OH, SO YOU WANT ME TO SPELL IT OUT FOR YOU?
YOU PERVERT!

GAH!
AS LONG AS WE CONNECT, IT'S ALL THE SAME IN THE END!
LUNGE

IF YOU DON'T ACCEPT THIS ARRANGEMENT, THEN YOU'LL DIE!
HOLD ON! ECO AND I ARE A PACKAGE, REMEMBER?!
HMM... WELL, YES, THAT'S A GOOD POINT.
BUT I THINK YOUR CHOICE IS STILL OBVIOUS.
AND IN THAT CASE...
WE MIGHT AS WELL GO AHEAD AND SEAL THE DEAL RIGHT NOW, DON'T YOU THINK?
THEN ECO WON'T HAVE A CHOICE!
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING! AND BESIDES, REBECCA'S RIGHT HERE WATCHING ...!
NO, NO, DON'T MIND ME. I'M HAVING FUN WATCHING THIS.
CURIOUS
R-REBECCA --!
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU SAYING?!
YOU SURE ARE A STUBBORN ONE, HMM?! AREN'T YOU THE KNIGHT OF AVALON?!
AND BE-SIDES...

Y-YOU'D BE MY FIRST, SO...
YOU OUGHT TO FEEL HON-ORED.
BLUSH
ON THAT NOTE, LET'S GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD!
WAIT --!!!
AND WHAT'S WITH "ON THAT NOTE"?!

I TOLD YOU TO STOP!!
WILL YOU LISTEN ?!
SHOVE
H-HUH?

Y-YOU...
EEEEEEEEEEEK!
SHOVE
D-DON'T LOOK AT ME!
AFTER SHE WAS BEING SO AGGRESSIVE ABOUT IT...?
.....
J-JUST GET DRESSED, WILL YOU?
I DON'T WANNA KEEP DEALING WITH THIS.

V-VERY WELL.
WE'LL REVISIT THE ISSUE ANOTHER TIME.
BY THE WAY, ASH BLAKE...
SHW?
WHAT?
WHILE I WAS PUTTING MY CLOTHES ON, I LOOKED EVERY-WHERE...
BUT MY UNDERWEAR SEEM TO HAVE VANISHED. I GAVE UP AND JUST PUT MY PANTS ON, BUT...
FANTASY
.....
HMM? WAIT A SEC...
UNDER-WEAR ...?
I'M SORRY TO ASK SUCH AN AWKWARD QUESTION OF YOU, BUT...

WHAT'S THAT I SEE STICKING OUT OF YOUR POCKET?
URK!
I FOR-GOT!
SNATCH
YOU LISTEN UP!
DASH!
I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU MY QUEEN ONE DAY! YOU'D BETTER BE READY!!
THE REST OF THE DAY WAS UNEVENT-FUL, BUT THEN...
THE NEXT DAY...
ACK!
HEH!
GOOD MORNING, ASH BLAKE. YOUNG DRAGON ECO.

WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU TWO DOING HERE?!
HAVE YOU ALREADY FORGOTTEN THAT I'M THE STUDENT COUNCIL'S VICE-PRESIDENT?
JUST THE TWO OF YOU SO FAR, HMM? THE PERKS OF BEING AN EARLY RISER!
ACTUALLY, IT'S PERFECT TIMING.
.....
ECO...
LOOK, I'LL BE BLUNT. IF YOU GUYS TRY ANYTHING, I'LL FIGHT BACK WITH EVERYTHING I'VE GOT.
HEH! NOT TO WORRY. MY BUSINESS TODAY ISN'T WITH ECO AT ALL
I THINK YOU KNOW WHAT I'M GETTING AT... MY FUTURE SECOND QUEEN.
YEEK!
?
!!

A-ASHLEY...!
NO...
FLINCH
"ASHLEY," HMM?
PLEASE STOP! YOU'RE SERIOUSLY CREEPING ME OUT.
LET'S SEE...
WHO'RE YOU CALLING "SECOND QUEEN," HUH?!
ARE YOU STILL GOING ON ABOUT THAT?!
SINCE YOUR REAL NAME IS ASH, I SUPPOSE WHEN YOU'RE QUEEN YOU'LL BE CALLED...
UM, ASH...
WOULD YOU LISTEN TO ME FOR JUST ONE MINUTE?!
Not remotely true!!
PLAYING HARD TO GET, HUH? I GUESS YOU'RE ANGLING TO BE MY FIRST QUEEN...?
YOU'RE A GREEDY ONE!
WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON?
IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE PLANNING TO MARRY ANOTHER MAN...?
N-NO, IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK!
THAT'S JUST NOT RIGHT!
WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU TWO?!

DON'T INSULT ME.
I'M NOT SOMEONE WHO JUST BLABS OTHER PEOPLE'S SECRETS.
OH ...?
AND HERE I THOUGHT ECO WOULD ALREADY KNOW EVERYTHING.
N-NO, THIS IS JUST... UH, WE'RE JUST TALKING IN A BRO CODE ONLY GUYS UNDERSTAND, SEE?
AWW, YOU'RE SUCH A NICE BOY.
I LIKE YOU EVEN MORE NOW.
OKAY, CELES! IT'S TIME TO COMMENCE PROJECT ASHLEY!
?!
HOIST
CLOK
CLOK
UGH, THIS IS SUCH A HASSLE.
HUH ?!

HOLD ON, NOW. I NEED YOU TO WAIT HERE FOR A FEW MINUTES.
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?!
ASH !!!
"GAH!
HOW'RE YOU SO STRONG?!
I SWEAR TO YOU THAT NO HARM WILL BEFALL ASH BLAKE.
UNTIL HE RETURNS, HOW ABOUT WE HAVE A LITTLE TEA TIME?
THERE WE GO!
NGH!
WHOMP
STRIP! RIGHT NOW!

AND THEN...
PUT THIS ON.
YOU'RE... YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?
THAT'S A GIRLS...
WH-WHAT IF I SAY NO...?
HUH? DON'T MESS WITH ME.
TWITCH
I'M UNDER ENOUGH STRESS BECAUSE OF HOW MUCH TROUBLE OSCAR IS, UNDERSTAND? I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.
IF YOU'RE SO STRESSED, WHY'D YOU LOOK SO CALM WHEN YOU WERE KICKING OSCAR?!
THIS IS SO ANNOYING...! Tch. FINE. I'LL STRIP YOU MYSELF.
W-WAIT!
LISTEN! ALL I NEED IS FOR YOU TO TURN INTO ASHLEY AND PUT A BABY IN OSCAR! GET IT?!
DON'T JUST SAY GRAPHIC STUFF LIKE THAT SO...SO CASUALLY!

STOP FIGHTING AND TAKE OFF YOUR DAMN CLOTHES!!
YOU LITTLE PUNK --!
STOP IT ...!!!
I THOUGHT I HEARD ASH'S VOICE JUST NOW...
YOU MUST BE IMAGINING THINGS. DO SIT AND HAVE SOME TEA, ECO.
.....
NOOOOOOOO!

LOOK AT YOU, SO PRIM AND PROPER!
DON'T WORRY. THESE LEAVES HAVE BEEN SPECIALLY PREPARED TO REMOVE THE INTOXICATING PROPERTIES. THIS TEA IS SAFE FOR YOUNG DRAGONS.
THAT'S ANSAR TEA, ISN'T IT?!
WELL, I CAN'T HAVE IT! I'LL GET DRUNK IF I DO! SO THERE!
THEN...
MAYBE JUST A SIP...
DROOL
.....
HEH!
TRUST ME.
REALLY ...?
SPRAWL
YOU...
YOU... TRICKED ME...
Huff.. Huff..
SMIRK
UGH...

NOW THAT YOU'RE UNDER ITS INFLUENCE, WHY NOT LET YOURSELF GO...
AND ACCEPT ME!!!

HEH! DO FORGIVE ME, ECO.
BUT I'M AWARE OF HOW *LEWDLY* YOU BEHAVE ONCE YOU'VE HAD ANSAR.

WOBBLE
ASH ...!
ASH...
WOBBLE
HUFF...

HUFF...
HUFF...
WHERE'S... ASH...?
HMM?

A...
HUFF ...
HUFF...
ASH... IS THAT... YOU?

I THOUGHT SHE WAS INDISCRIMI-NATE WHEN SHE WAS DRUNK...?
WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING?
BUT... SHE'S SPECIFICALLY LOOKING FOR HER RIDER...

I WON'T... LET YOU GET AWAY. SO THERE!
!!
IS... IS SHE ...?!
RUB
RUB
HUFF...
HUFF...
AH...
NGH...
ASH...
NNN...

I LOVE YOU...
ASH...
BA-THMP BA-THMP
DOES SHE THINK...
IS THAT POSSIBLE?
DOES SHE THINK THE DESK IS ASH...?
.....
LOOKS LIKE IT'S NOT MY LUCKY DAY.
I HAVE NO CHOICE, THEN.
IF I WANT TO OBTAIN ECO, THERE'S ONLY ONE OPTION LEFT.
I THOUGHT I'D WIN HER OVER BY USING ANSAR...
BUT IT SEEMS I'VE UNDER-ESTIMATED THE STRENGTH OF YOUR BOND.

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU, CELES!
AND...
BAM
YOU'RE MY ONE OPTION, ASHLEY.
HEY! WE'RE BACK, OSCAR!
OHH...
THIS... THIS IS...

QUITE THE SURPRISE ...!
MY HANDIWORK GETS ALL THE CREDIT.
THE BOOBS ARE FAKE, OBVIOUSLY.
IT'S BEYOND MY EXPECTATIONS!
I ALMOST DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU, ASHLEY.
YOU --!
WE SERIOUSLY NEED TO HAVE A TALK ABOUT ALL OF THIS LATER.
NOW, NOW! A LADY SHOULDN'T MAKE SUCH A SCARY FACE.
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO PUT YOU IN A SPECIAL DRESS AND WE'LL BE GOLDEN.
AND I'M TELLING YOU I WON'T PLAY ALONG!
HEH! NO NEED TO BE SO MODEST.
TRULY, YOU'RE LIKE THE SINGLE WHITE LILY BLOOMING SOFTLY IN THE VALLEY OF THE ZENOGRAVIAN MOUNTAINS.

JOLT
WHASH THE MATTER, ASH?
WHY'RE YOU... DRESSED LIKE A GIRL...?
ECO --!
STIR
!
IS THAT... YOU, ASH...?
!!
LICK
MMMM, YOU SMELL SO GOOD...
SO NYUMMY...
I CAN'T WAIT ANY-MORE!
ASH --!!
LUNGE
OSCAR! DID YOU GIVE ECO ANSAR?!
AND THIS PERFUME ALL OVER ME IS ANSAR, TOO, ISN'T IT?!

E-ECO...
STOP.
MMM...
HUFF...
MMM...

I SEE...!
OHH!
BA-THMP
BA-THMP
SO THIS IS HOW SHE RESPONDS WHEN ASH IS WITH HER, HMM?
ISN'T THAT CURIOUS?!

DON'T JUST WATCH! HELP ME OUT!
I'LL HELP IF YOU AGREE TO BE MY QUEEN.
TH-THAT'S DIRTY POOL!

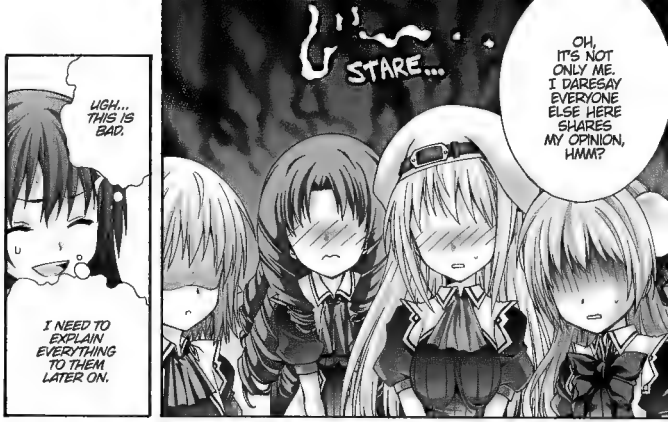
I MUST SAY, THAT LOOK IS ODDLY SUITED TO YOU.
IT TOOK ME A MOMENT TO RECOGNIZE YOU, BUT...
GRACIOUS, WHATEVER IS GOING ON HERE?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO STARTED ALL THIS...
NGH.
THAT VOICE...
TH...
AND... EVERY-ONE ELSE?!
RE-BECCA ?!

WHAT A SUR-PRISE...
ASH...
BUT HOW PRETTY...
HE REALLY IS! B-BUT...
OH, THIS IS SO CONFUSING!
WH...
WHA ...?
IS THAT... REALLY YOU, ASH...?
YOU... YOU DRESS UP AS A GIRL TO DO THINGS WITH ECO...? I-I HAD NO IDEA YOU WERE INTO THAT SORT OF THING...
IT'S... IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK, PRINCESS! THERE'S A TOTALLY REASONABLE EXPLANA-TION...!
UNBE-LIEVABLE ...!
SLUMP...
DID... DID I REALLY FALL FOR SUCH A PERVERT ...?
PRIN-CESS ...!
NOOOO~!
PEEST!
HA HA HA HA!

YOU LITTLE ...!
OSCAR ...!
JUST YOU WAIT!
I'LL GET YOU BACK FOR THIS --!!
?

AHHH, WHAT A WONDROUS VIEW THIS IS.
IT'S BEEN AGES SINCE I ATTENDED A STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING...
BUT NOW THAT I'M HERE, I HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF SITTING WITH THE BEAUTIFUL ASHLEY.
Chapter 1.11
The Chevron Royal Family's Key Requirement ③

AND TO BE HONEST, I'M FINDING THIS ALL RATHER INTERESTING.
HA HA!
I KNEW IT!
AND WHY, EXACTLY, AM I STILL WEARING THIS?
BECAUSE WE CAN'T DELAY THE MEETING JUST SO YOU CAN CHANGE.


UGH... THIS IS BAD.
I NEED TO EXPLAIN EVERYTHING TO THEM LATER ON.
STARE...
OH, IT'S NOT ONLY ME. I DARESAY EVERYONE ELSE HERE SHARES MY OPINION, HMM?

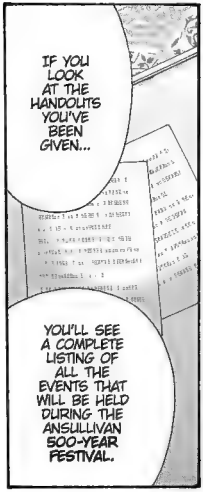
UM? HEY, MAX?
.....

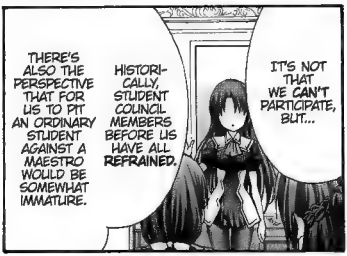
TURN
HUH?
MAX, WILL YOU HELP ME CLEAR THINGS UP?

CREEPED OUT
ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE, LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS.
I- I MUST'VE IMAGINED THAT JUST NOW, RIGHT?!

BLUSH
GLANCE
?!

OBJEC-
TION.
THEY'RE ALL BORING.
THEY'RE AN INSULT TO THE VERY NAME OF SUCH AN IMPORTANT FESTIVAL.


IF YOU LOOK AT THE HANDOUTS YOU'VE BEEN GIVEN...
YOU'LL SEE A COMPLETE LISTING OF ALL THE EVENTS THAT WILL BE HELD DURING THE ANSULLIVAN 500-YEAR FESTIVAL.


THERE'S ALSO THE PERSPECTIVE THAT FOR US TO PIT AN ORDINARY STUDENT AGAINST A MAESTRO WOULD BE SOMEWHAT IMMATURE.
HISTORI-CALLY, STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS BEFORE US HAVE ALL REFRAINED.
IT'S NOT THAT WE CAN'T PARTICIPATE, BUT...

CARE TO EXPLAIN, OSCAR?
LOOK AT THE GENERAL EVENTS. THERE AREN'T ANY THAT WE-- AT LEAST, THE STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS WHO RIDE MAESTROS-- CAN PARTICI-PATE IN, ARE THERE?

THAT'S THE THING, THOUGH!
IF WE'RE BOUND BY THE SHACKLES OF THE PAST, THERE'S NO POINT TO THIS FESTIVAL BEING MORE SPECIAL THAN ANY OTHER.

A DRAGONARS' GUNNER BOUT ...?!

IN ADDITION TO THE GENERAL EVENTS BEING HELD, WE COULD ALSO...
HOLD A "DRAGONARS' GUNNER BOUT" THAT LETS HIGHER-LEVEL DRAGONARS TEST THEIR ABILITIES AGAINST EACH OTHER. WHAT DO YOU THINK?
HERE'S MY COUNTER-PROPOSAL!

GLANCE
THAT DEPENDS ON OUR SKILL, DOESN'T IT?
IT'D BE A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW THE WORLD THAT DRAGONS ARE MORE THAN JUST DANGEROUS CREATURES. WE COULD SHOW HOW WONDERFUL THEY ARE!

I SEE. A MARTIAL ARTS TOURNAMENT THAT'S ONLY OPEN TO HIGHER-RANKED DRAGONARS ...?
IT'S NOT A BAD IDEA, BUT DON'T YOU THINK AN EVENT LIKE THAT WOULD BE A BIT DANGEROUS WHEN WE'VE INVITED SO MANY VISITORS?

ACTUALLY, I DO REMEMBER HEARING THAT WE'VE INVITED LOTS OF FOREIGN VISITORS TO ATTEND.
AND I THINK THAT INCLUDES THE KING OF CHEVRON...
AS WELL AS THAT NOBLE NAMED URIEL WHO OSCAR MENTIONED BEFORE.
THAT SURE EXPLAINS WHY OSCAR'S SO MOTIVATED.
VERY WELL. IF NO ONE OBJECTS, I'LL GIVE OSCAR'S PROPOSAL SERIOUS CONSIDERATION.
Hmm...
I'M NOT AGAINST IT...
DEJECTED
BUT MY RHIANNON'S JUST AN ORDINARY HYDRA, SO I DON'T THINK SHE'LL BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE.
AH... I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT, JESSICA.
ANYONE ELSE?
UM, EXCUSE ME...
W-WAIT A SECOND...
ACTU-ALLY...
YEAH, THERE'S A PRETTY BIG PROBLEM FOR ME!
?

HMM? OH, THAT'S RIGHT.
YEAH.

WHAT IS IT, ASHLEY?
UH, ACTUALLY...
SHUT UP!

I'LL BE OBSERVING WITH JESSICA.
WHAT?! WHAT KIND OF NONSENSE IS THAT?!
STOMP

I TECHNICALLY HOLD THE RANK OF DRAGONAR...
BUT IT'S NOT LIKE I CAN JUST HAVE ECO AWAKEN FOR THE EVENTS.

HUH? WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?
IT WOULD LOOK VERY PECULIAR IF YOU DIDN'T PARTICIPATE!

AREN'T YOU "THE MAN WHO CAN RIDE ANY DRAGON"? MY INTELLIGENCE INDICATES THAT...
YOU WERE ALWAYS ABLE TO EASILY PASS YOUR CLASSES BY RIDING OTHER STUDENTS' DRAGONS.
WELL, THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
I NEED YOU TO BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE!
THAT WAY I CAN CHALLENGE YOU FOR THE OVERALL VICTORY!
I STOOD DOWN THE OTHER DAY, BUT I REALLY WANT TO FIGHT YOU!
AND IF I WIN, I WANT YOU TO OFFICIALLY SHED YOUR IDENTITY AS A MAN...
1 POINT
AND BECOME MY QUEEN WHO CAN RIDE ANY DRAGON !!!
HUH?! ARE YOU JOKING?!
I'M NOT ACCEPTING CONDITIONS LIKE THAT!
Qu... Queen...?!

STAND
ARE...
ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
I AGREE TO RETRACT EVERY SINGLE DEMAND I'VE MADE OF YOU, IF YOU WISH?
WHEN I BECOME CHEVRON'S KING, I'LL ESTABLISH A PERMANENT ALLIANCE BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF CHEVRON AND THE CHIVALRIC ORDER?
AND ON TOP OF THAT, I'LL PROMISE THAT...
OH NO? BUT WHAT IF, SHOULD YOU SOMEHOW MANAGE TO WIN...
IT'S SUSPICIOUS, ALL RIGHT...
BUT THE LOOK ON HER FACE...
.....
DON'T LET HIM TRICK YOU, ASH!
REMEMBER HOW HE LIED TO ME AND MADE ME DRINK ANSAR!

!
ALL RIGHT, OSCAR.
IT'S AGAINST MY BETTER JUDGMENT, BUT FOR ECO AND FOR THE FUTURE OF THE CHIVALRIC ORDER, I'LL ACCEPT YOUR CHALLENGE!

I IMAGINE IT'LL STILL BE AN UNREASONABLE MATCH, BUT...
FOR WHATEVER REASON, I ALWAYS GET THE FEELING SHE'S BEING COMPLETELY HONEST.
WHENEVER SHE MENTIONS ANYTHING ABOUT BECOMING KING OF CHEVRON...

.....
ASH --?

I ALSO WANT YOU TO GIVE UP ON YOUR UNREASONABLE NOTIONS ABOUT MARRYING REBECCA!!
BUT I HAVE ONE MORE CONDITION!

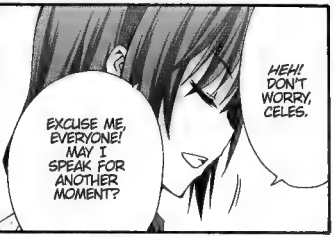
BUT, ASH, THERE'S NO REASON FOR YOU TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL OF THAT--!
THE CHIVALRIC ORDER CERTAINLY ISN'T YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!
IT'S FINE, PRINCESS! BESIDES, ALL THE BATTLES I'VE FOUGHT HAVEN'T BEEN FOR SHOW!

VERY WELL! IF YOU WIN, I'LL COMPLETELY GIVE UP ON BOTH REBECCA AND ECO!
ALTHOUGH I CAN'T IMAGINE YOU'LL ACTUALLY DEFEAT ME.
.....

I'D LIKE YOU TO COMPETE USING LANCELOT!
PRINCESS?!
REALLY?!
GRAB
HEY! YOU'RE TOO CLOSE, YOU TWO!

TYPICAL ASH...!
I'M SORRY FOR EARLIER. BEING DRESSED LIKE THAT DOESN'T CHANGE ANYTHING ABOUT YOU.

I-
I MEAN, GAWAIN WOULD WORK VERY WELL WITH YOU...!
HE'S MORE POPULAR THAN I WOULD'VE THOUGHT. WHAT'LL WE DO, OSCAR?


HEH! DON'T WORRY, CELES.
EXCUSE ME, EVERYONE! MAY I SPEAK FOR ANOTHER MOMENT?

STAND
GET AWAY FROM HIM!
Good grief!
WAIT...! IN THAT CASE, YOU CAN USE MY GAWAIN AS WELL!

LIKE WHAT?
I'M SAYING THAT ANYONE PARTICIPATING SHOULD BE ABLE TO DEMAND A SIGNIFICANT ENOUGH PRIZE THAT THE WHOLE COURSE OF THEIR LIFE COULD BE CHANGED.

IT OCCURS TO ME THAT IT'S UNFAIR TO ALL OF YOU FOR ME AND ASH TO BE THE ONLY ONES CHALLENGING EACH OTHER LIKE THIS.
I PROPOSE THAT A REWARD BE GIVEN TO ANYONE WHO PARTICIPATES AND WINS.

KRAKOOOM
HUH?
S-SAME HERE...! IT WOULDN'T BE RIGHT OF ME TO... UHH...HAVE MY DRAGON GET USED TO ANOTHER RIDER.
A-AND I CAN'T LEND YOU MY ARIANRHOD, EITHER!!!
UM...
FORGIVE ME, ASH! BUT I DON'T THINK I CAN LEND YOU LANCELOT AFTER ALL!!!
WSH
HUH?!
PRIN-CESS..?
HMM. OSCAR REALLY GOT YOU GOOD THERE.
THEY'LL JUST KEEP WHITTLING AWAY AT YOUR COMBAT POWER.
HUH?

N-no! I'm the only one being left out...?
IF I WERE TO WIN...
AND I...
I'D LIKE TO TAKE ASH BACK TO THE EKBLATT HOMELAND AND... AND INTRODUCE HIM TO MY FATHER, THE CHIEF!
SHRIEK
Huh?!
PRESI-DENT! I... I...
UM...
IF I WIN, THE PRIZE I'D LIKE IS TO BE E-NGAGED TO ASH...!!
W-WAIT...
HUH?!!
BA-THMP
JUST SO YOU KNOW, MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT THAT'S THEIR TRADITIONAL WAY OF ASKING FOR A SACRED WEDDING.
Creak...
ECO...
twitch
AN ENGAGE-MENT?! LIKE THAT'D EVER BE ALLOWED !!
STOP THIS NON-SENSE RIGHT NOW!

I-I... UGH!
OSCAR'S QUITE THE STRATEGIST, HMM?
TCH!

IF YOU'RE A DRAGON AT ALL...
YOUR ONLY JOB HERE IS DOING ALL YOU CAN TO HELP YOUR RIDER WIN!

AT THIS RATE, I WON'T HAVE ANY POSSIBLE WAY LEFT TO WIN!
BUT, IF I LOSE RIGHT NOW...

IT'S ONLY A GAME, BUT NOW EVERYONE'S TAKING IT DEADLY SERIOUSLY...
AND YOU CAN'T USE EITHER LANCELOT OR GAWAIN.

OH, FINE! I GET IT!!!
SHUDDER
I WON'T BE ABLE TO LIVE AS A MAN ANY-MORE!

IT'S NOT LIKE WE WERE GOING TO RELY ON YOUR STUPID DRAGONS ANYWAY! SO THERE!!
WE CAN BEAT YOU JUST USING BRIGITTE !!!
HUH?! ECO --!
WHO'S BRI-GITTE?
IS THERE A MAESTRO BY THAT NAME HERE? IT'S NOT FAMILIAR...
NO, BRIGITTE'S AN EARTHIA.
A FRIEND'S DRAGON.
AN EARTHIA ?!

Hee hee!
ARE YOU SERIOUSLY CHALLENGING MY TRISTAN WITH A MERE EARTHIA?!
THAT'S TOO RICH!

HA!
HA HA HA HA!

FUM?
HEY!
WHY ARE YOU LAUGHING?! THERE'S NO REASON FOR THAT!

FWOOOO
YOU HADN'T BEEN BORN YET, BUT...
BRIGHTTE WASN'T ABLE TO WIN AGAINST LANCELOT BACK THEN.

BUT, ECO...
THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE LIKE IT WAS DURING THE DRAGONAR FESTIVAL OF ARIES.

.....

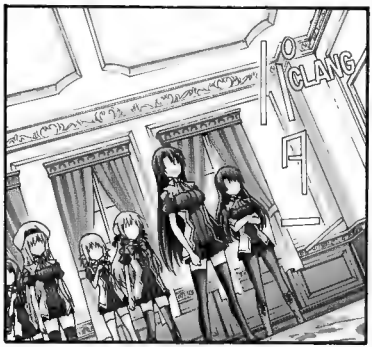
I'M UPSET ABOUT A DRAGON I KNOW BEING MOCKED, THAT'S ALL!
I-I JUST...
FOR BRIGITTE'S OWN SAKE, WE CAN'T ASK HER TO DO THE IMPOSSI-BLE.
HOW DARE YOU?
DESPITE KNOWING HOW MUCH MORE POWERFUL MY POSITION WAS, WAS THAT I MADE FUN OF ECO.
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, DURING THAT RACE...
ECO...
THE WHOLE REASON YOU CHALLENGED ME...
.....!!!
AND I BET BRI-GITTE'D FEEL THE SAME WAY!
I-I THOUGHT YOU'D BE UPSET ABOUT THAT, TOO!

YOU WERE FIGHTING FOR YOUR STEED, NOT YOURSELF.
I REMEMBER HOW HARD AND DETERMINED YOUR EYES LOOKED.
I'M SORRY, PRINCESS... AND, ECO.
?
I THINK SOMEHOW I LOST MY NERVE FOR A MINUTE THERE.
I SEE...
YOU'RE RIGHT.
.....!

BEING TOLD TO ABANDON MY MANHOOD AND ALL...
MADE ME A LITTLE SCARED AND CALCU-LATING.
HUH? CALCU-LATING?
I THINK "RECK-LESS" IS THE WORD YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.
YOU'RE WRONG, OSCAR!
RIGHT NOW WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT IS...
THE VERY HEART OF WHAT MATTERS TO US DRAGO-NARS!

YOU'RE SERIOUSLY CHEWING OSCAR OUT...
JUST FOR MAKING A LITTLE FUN OF YOUR FRIEND'S DIMWITTED DRAGON ...?
——?!
HUH?! WHAT IS *WRONG* WITH YOU PEOPLE?!
NAH, THAT'S NOT REALLY IT.
IT'S MORE THAN I MADE A DECISION.
MY GOOD FRIEND'S DRAGON'S HONOR IS ONLY *ONE* REASON WHY...
I'M GONNA FACE OFF WITH YOU AGAIN, OSCAR!!!
——!

ASH ...!!
THAT'S RIGHT! AND YOU'VE GOT ME ON YOUR SIDE, TOO!!
BETWEEN US, TRISTAN WON'T BE A CHALLENGE AT ALL!
YOU'VE MADE YOUR POINT.
ASHLEY ...
OR ASH, FOR NOW.
I RECOMMEND YOU START GETTING COMFORTABLE WITH CROSS-DRESSING.
I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU BECOME ASHLEY BEFORE YOU KNOW WHAT HIT YOU.


CLANG

HMPH.
WORK ON YOUR FEMININITY, MAGGOT.

ASH, THAT WAS WONDERFUL.
HA HA... NOW I'M EXHAUSTED.
THAT WAS VERY MANLY...
AS EXPECTED OF THE MAN I CHOSE.
COUGH!

HOW THEY MIGHT FEEL ABOUT GETTING DRAGGED INTO THIS.
WITHOUT ASKING...
SPARKLE

UH, OOPS.
I GOT ALL CARRIED AWAY AND COMMITTED TO THAT...

BUT...
THIS WILL BE A CHALLENGE FOR ALL OF US.
DON'T LOSE YOUR NERVE NOW!
AN EARTHIA FIGHTING IN A TOURNAMENT PACKED WITH MAESTROS ...?
HOW CAN I EVEN ASK THEM TO AGREE TO THAT?
Anyone with sense would refuse, right?
OSCAR DEFEATED US ALL SOUNDLY LAST TIME.
AND FOR ANY OF US TO WIN, WE'LL HAVE TO DEFEAT REBECCA ALSO.
URK!
That's true.
HEY, REBECCA-- YOU NEVER SAID WHAT YOU WANT IF YOU WIN!
ARE YOU GOING TO WANT SOMETHING FROM ASH, TOO?!
ME? I HAVEN'T THOUGHT OF ANYTHING YET.
I'M SURE I'LL THINK OF SOMETHING... AFTER I WIN.
.....

I SUGGEST YOU ALL TRAIN AS HARD AS POSSIBLE RIGHT UP UNTIL THE EVENT! REMEMBER YOU'RE ALL UPHOLDING THE NAME OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL, SO I EXPECT AN EXCELLENT SHOWING FROM ALL OF YOU!!
THIS MEETING IS AD-JOURNED!

YEAH !!
LET'S ALL DO OUR BEST !!!
I'M GOING TO GET MUCH STRON-GER.
ME TOO.
OF COURSE! I'M NOT ABOUT TO LOSE. JUST WATCH, ASH!

WE WERE SWAMPED WITH PREPARATIONS FOR THE FESTIVAL, AS WELL AS TRAINING...
AND THE TIME FLEW BY BEFORE WE KNEW IT.
OW!
TH-WHOOOM
HEY!
ARE YOU OKAY, ASH?!

I SAID YOU WERE GOING OVER-BOARD WITH TRAINING!
ESPECIALLY SINCE YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE OF ACTUALLY BEATING REBECCA OR THE OTHERS!
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING?!
BRIGITTE'S IN THIS TO WIN TOO, REMEM-BER!
SHE SAYS SHE WANTS TO GET BACK AT OSCAR FOR MAKING FUN OF YOU, TOO!
GWAAHH!!!
Sigh...
BUT I HONESTLY DON'T CARE WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT ME.
IT'S MOSTLY TRUE, ANYWAY.
WELL, I DON'T AGREE WITH THEM AT ALL.
AND BRIGITTE'S A GREAT DRAGON IN HER OWN RIGHT!

BUT...
AS LONG AS A DRAGON HAS A BOND WITH US, ANY OF THEM STILL CAN BECOME A MAESTRO!
THE MOTHER DRAGON HERSELF TOLD ME THAT...
LONG AGO, EVERY SINGLE DRAGON WAS CAPABLE OF BECOMING A MAESTRO.
IT'S JUST THAT THE CREATION POWER OF THE DRAGON TRIBE'S ASTRAL GOT TOO WEAK.
LOOK, I MAY BE RIDING HER, BUT YOU'RE HER RIDER. GET IT TOGETHER.
...
SURE, I GUESS... BUT IT'S NOT POSSIBLE WITH ME.
YOU DON'T JUST RIDE DRAGONS, DO YOU?
I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU ACTUALLY TRAINING A DRAGON BEFORE. YOU'RE REALLY THINKING STUFF THROUGH, AREN'T YOU?
ANYWAY, I'M HEADING BACK FOR NOW!
.....

EVERY STEED AND RIDER HAVE THEIR OWN SPECIAL BOND, SO...
I TRY TO UNDERSTAND THEM BOTH AS WELL AS POSSIBLE BEFORE I START RIDING.
WELL, YEAH. THE GOAL IS RIDING THEM...
BUT IT'S NOT FAIR TO ANYONE IF I BARGE IN AND TAKE OVER.
DO... DO YOU STILL FEEL LIKE YOU WANT TO RIDE ME EVEN BETTER, TOO...?
UM... AND... WHAT ABOUT ME...?
GOTCHA.
THAT'S A GOOD ATTI-TUDE!

.....
OH, GOSH.
OF COURSE!
BUT MAYBE YOU SHOULD TONE DOWN THE FLIRTING WITH OTHER DRAGONS...
MY KNIGHT WHO CAN "RIDE ANY DRAGON."

HA! BUT I DON'T HAVE MUCH CHOICE.
ESPECIALLY NOT WITH THE OPPONENTS WE'RE FACING THIS TIME.
BUT SERIOUSLY, I WONDER WHO WE'LL END UP AGAINST?
NO IDEA. ALL I KNOW FOR SURE IS...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THE STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS...
ARE GONNA BE FACING EACH OTHER HEAD ON.
WHATEVER HAPPENS, IT SHOULD BE QUITE A SHOW.
BUT...
LET'S MAKE SURE WE WIN, OKAY?
OKAY! LET'S RUN THROUGH ONE MORE EXERCISE!

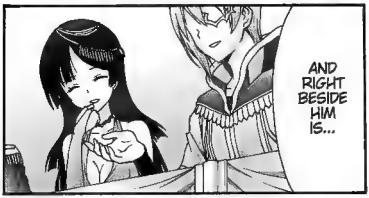
AND THEN...
I'M ABSO-LUTELY GONNA DEFEND...
OUR FUTURE AND THE CHIVALRIC ORDER!!

DRAGONAR
ACADEMY

THERE'S KING OSWALD-- THE PALADIN.
AND VISITING NOBLES FROM ACROSS THE KNIGHT-DOM...
BOOM
ドオ
BOOM
ドオ
HERE WE GO, THEN!
THE ANSULLIVAN 500-YEAR FESTIVAL IS FINALLY STARTING ...!!!
Chapter LIV
The Ansullivan 500-Year Festival

OVER THERE IS THE THIRD PRINCE OF CHEVRON...
URIEL.

HEH!
TAKE A GOOD LOOK, ASHLEY-- I'M SORRY, ASH.


AND RIGHT BESIDE HIM IS...

HIM?
YES. HE HAS AN OVERWHELMING LUST FOR POWER...
AND I BELIEVE HIM TO BE THE GREATEST OBSTACLE BETWEEN ME AND THE THRONE.

THE SECOND PRINCESS OF THE KNIGHTDOM.
MY SISTER CASSANDRA LAUTREAMONT.

SHE'S BEEN STUDYING IN ABROAD IN CHEVRON FOR SO LONG...
THAT EVEN I HAVEN'T SEEN HER FOR A FEW YEARS NOW.
.....
OSCAR, ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE GONNA BE OKAY?
EVERY-THING'S FINE.
NOT EVEN LIRIEL WOULD DARE TRY SOMETHING IN SUCH A PUBLIC PLACE.
I'M GONNA SHOW HIM JUST HOW POWERFUL I REALLY AM.
AND YOU? HAVE YOU COME TO TERMS WITH GIVING UP YOUR MANHOOD AFTER THIS?
IT'S NOT GONNA GO THE WAY YOU EXPECT.
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF LOSING EITHER.

I-
I LIKE YOU BECAUSE YOU'RE A MAN.
THE IDEA OF YOU LOSING TO OSCAR AND ABANDONING YOUR MANHOOD IS UNFORGIVABLE. GOT IT?

UHM...
COUGH!
I'M YOUR RIVAL TODAY, BUT LET ME JUST SAY...

G-GOT IT!
.....
OBVIOUSLY I'M NOT LETTING IT GO!

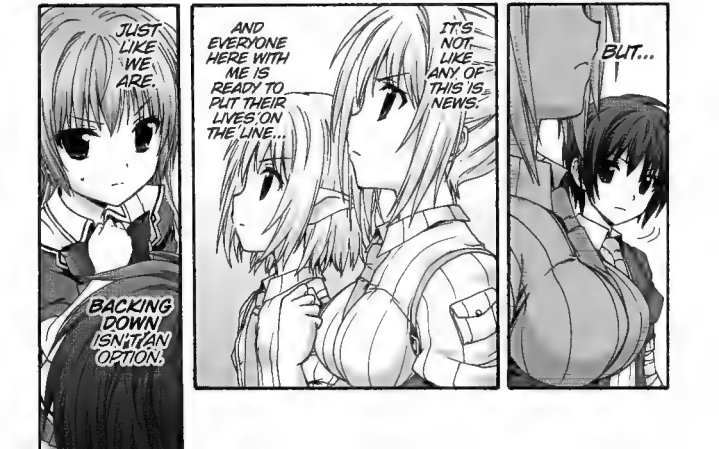
Now, before we begin our exciting events...
ワァァ OOOOOH!
We'll be drawing to see who the opponents will be in this afternoon's special main event, the Dragoners' Gunner Bout!

As you're all aware, the Dragonars' Gunner Bout is a tournament held between select high-ranked Dragonars!
After the preliminary matches, the three victors of those rounds will go on to fight one another in a three-way match during the finals, which will be held on the last day of the festival!!
We'll start off by randomly drawing names.
And now the results!
If you'd all direct your attention up there...
This is...
The 500-Year Festival's Dragonars' Gunner Bout's...

VOILA!
Tourna-
ment
chart!!!

!!
I DIDN'T EXPECT TO FACE REBECCA FIRST THING...!!
THIS IS NO GOOD!
HEH! ROUGH LUCK, ASH. I FEEL FOR YOU, TRULY.
FIGHTING WITH BRIGITTE, AN EARTHIA...
HOW THE HECK CAN WE BEAT REBECCA AND HER CÚCHU-LAINN?!

WHEN WE SAW HER UNLEASH ALL HER STRENGTH...
SHE HAD SO MUCH POWER AND TECHNIQUE.
THAT TIME EXCALIBUR AND ECO'S ARK GAVE ME THE POWER TO END THINGS PEACEFULLY.
BRO-O-O-OSH
BUT THERE'S SUCH A MASSIVE DIFFERENCE...
BETWEEN REBECCA'S EXPERIENCE AND MINE, AND THE STRENGTH OF OUR DRAGONS.


BUT...
IT'S NOT LIKE ANY OF THIS IS NEWS.
AND EVERYONE HERE WITH ME IS READY TO PUT THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE...
JUST LIKE WE ARE.
BACKING DOWN ISN'T AN OPTION.

SO WHAT IF REBECCA'S MY OPPONENT? I'M A STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBER, AND I'M GONNA DO THE COUNCIL PROUD!
THE RESULTS'LL BE WHAT THEY'LL BE.
HEH! ARE YOU READY TO CONCEDE DEFEAT?
AS IF!

HMPH! BIG WORDS FROM A NOVICE.
TURN
BUT WHATEVER. I'LL LOOK FORWARD TO WATCHING YOUR BOUT.
.....
!!
ASH...

AFTER-NOON ARRIVED QUICK-LY...
AND THE VERY FIRST MATCH PROMISED TO BE MEMO-RABLE.
YEEAAH!!
I'M SO SORRY, ASH.
GIVEN YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES, I'VE LOVE TO LET YOU WIN IF I COULD.
BUT...
I CAN'T SHAME OUR FESTIVAL THAT WAY.
I'M SURE YOU UNDER-STAND.
YEAH, I DO.
PRESI-DENT!!
YOU'RE WON-DER-FUL!!!
CÚ-CHU-LAINN !!

SURE, I'M A DRAGONAR NOW, AND I'VE GOT SOME POPULARITY OF MY OWN, BUT I'M NOWHERE NEAR REBECCA.
AND REALISTICALLY, NO ONE THINKS WE HAVE A CHANCE AGAINST HER WITH AN EARTHIA.
WHAT THE HECK...?! ALMOST EVERYONE'S CHEERING FOR HER!
THAT'S KINDA INEVITA-BLE.
LOOK-- HE'S REBECCA'S BIGGEST FAN, BUT HE'S NOT EVEN CHEERING.
BESIDES, RAY-MOND'S REALLY WORRIED.
BUT ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS MAKE SURE THEIR EYES ARE ON YOU WHEN WE'RE FIGHTING!
THAT'S RIGHT, ASH. THEY MAY NOT BE CHEERING FOR YOU NOW...
BUT... BUT YOU PROMISED YOU'D WIN FOR THIS LITTLE ONE...!
YOU BET I DID.

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO FACING YOU, DRAGONAR TO DRAGONAR!!
VMMM
SNAP
WSSSSH

SHE WENT STRAIGHT TO THE SECOND FORM OF HER ARK...!
GUESS WE'RE GOING ALL-OUT FROM THE BEGIN-NING!

I CAN TELL !!
UGH! AFTER ALL, REBECCA'S TOTALLY INTO ASH, TOO...!!
ECO, WILL YOU HELP ME OUT?
LIH-HUH! I'VE GOT YOUR BACK!
AND THAT MEANS I CAN'T LOSE --!
Aimete! Gorjal!
Pelo! Espaldas!
Munoplas! Quijotes! Guardas!
Codales! Antebrazos!
KHHHHHNNNN
Bufetas! Hombreras! Brazales!
Brufoneras! Faldaje! Escarcelas!

Grebas...
Es-
carpes...
Espo-
lon
--!!!
FWWAAAAA

MRMR MRMR
A-ASH?! THAT'S--!
SSSSSSH
I'M THRILLED TO SEE IT SO EARLY ON!
THE ARK OF AVALON, THE IMPERIAL HOUSE OF THE HOLY DRAGONS ...!!!

IT MIGHT BE EVEN STRONGER THAN CÚCHU-LAINN'S.
THAT SAID, IT'S RADIATING AN IMMENSE AMOUNT OF MAGIC.
ビリ!
CRACKLE
THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT IT'S AN ARK...
BUT IT BARELY EVEN LOOKS LIKE ARMOR!
BOTH OF YOU ...!!
YOU'RE INCREDI-BLY IMPRES-SIVE...
INSTEAD, I'LL FACE YOU WITH A POWER TO MATCH YOURS.
Come hither, magic spear that ever flies true!!!
LIFU
I HAVE TO TAKE BACK...
WHAT I SAID BEFORE.
I DON'T THINK I CAN GO REMOTELY EASY ON YOU.

Gae Bulg !!!
UNNH ...!
MMMMMMM
Wheel of For-tune!!
Gae Bulg...

CRAP!
WHAT'LL WE DO?!
THAT SPEAR CAN'T MISS, RIGHT?!
SHE'S NOT MESSING AROUND!

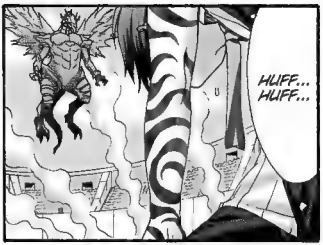
BUT BACK THEN...
EXCALIBUR'S MAGIC WAS ABLE TO NEGATE HER SPEAR'S POWER!
HOIST
IN WHICH CASE...
Mani-fest...!!
O holy sword, wielded by a knight among knights... Forged of steel that cuts through anything in your path...

Thy name is...
Ex-calibur !!!
LET'S RUN, BRIGITTE!
!!
ZWOOOOM
LUNGE

BUT THIS TIME IT'S LIKE SHE'S ONLY UNLEASHING SMALL SHOTS AT ME.
WHEN SHE FOUGHT BEFORE, SHE UNLEASHED A HUGE TORRENT OF MAGIC...!
BUT SOMETHING ABOUT IT DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT.
THIS IS WHAT YOU'D EXPECT FROM A WEAPON THAT CAN'T MISS...
NOW'S THE PERFECT TIME TO PUSH FORWARD!
WELL, WHATEVER THE REASON IS...
STOMP
VOOOOM

TCH --!
RUR-KROOM
YOU'RE RELENT-LESS, REBECCA!
KROOM
EEEEEEK!
ECO !!
GAH! ECO! BRI-GITTE!!
THAT'S ENOUGH, ASH! JUST CONCEDE!!
AS IF I COULD JUST DO THAT!
AND I CAN'T BELIEVE BRIGITTE WANTS TO GIVE UP EITHER!
HUFF!
HUFF!
BUT...
AT THIS RATE...

THE FACT IS, A MAESTRO THAT CAN TAKE TO THE AIR HAS AN UNBEATABLE EDGE OVER AN EARTHIA.
NO MATTER HOW STRONG HIS ARK AND WEAPON ARE...
THIS IS BAD. ASH CAN'T KEEP IT UP MUCH LONGER.


HUFF... HUFF...

REBECCA CAN KEEP HUNTING THEM LIKE THAT ALL DAY IF SHE WISHES.
KR-KR-KROOM

BUT YOU'RE RUNNING OUT OF PLACES TO FLEE.
ENDURING MY ASSAULT FOR SO LONG IS NO SMALL FEAT, ASH.

BY CARELESSLY DEFLECTING MY SHOTS...
YOU'VE DESTROYED YOUR SURROUNDINGS, AND SOON YOUR EARTHIA WILL BE OUT OF GROUND ON WHICH TO GAIN SPEED.
SHE'S NOT WRONG. WE'VE HIT OUR LIMIT FOR RUNNING AWAY.
THE ONLY OTHER WAY TO BREAK THIS DEAD-LOCK...
WOULD BE TO USE EXCALIBUR'S MOST POWERFUL ATTACK...!
AND BREAK THROUGH REBECCA'S WHEEL OF FORTUNE.
BUT, I'M NOT EVEN SURE...
DROO
I CAN CREATE AN OPENING TO DO THAT!
YOU'RE FIN-ISHED, ASH!!

THIS IS BAD! I CAN'T GATHER UP ENERGY!
TCH!
KUUR-KROOMM
KEEL
BRIGITTE, WHAT'RE YOU DOING?! YOU HAVE TO MOVE!
HUFF
HUFF
THE WAY SHE'S BREATHING IS LIKE THAT OTHER TIME...
WHAT'S THE MATTER ?!!
BRI-GITTE --!

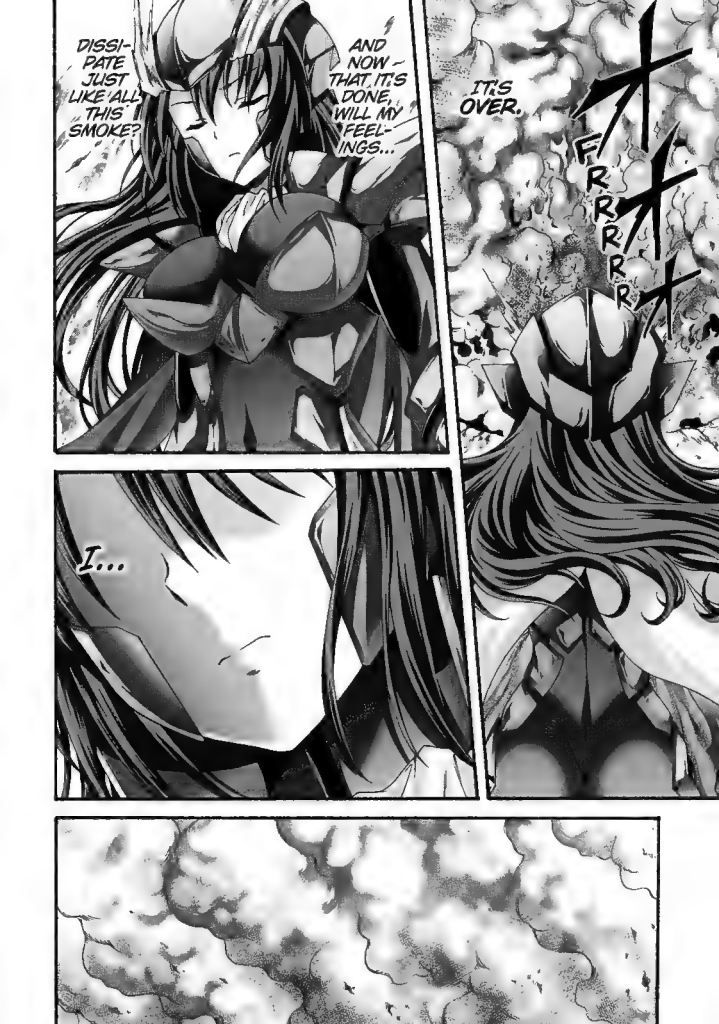
THINK OF HOW HARD YOU TRAINED!
GET UP!!
HUFF!
SHE'S HIT HER LIMITS!
SNARL...
DON'T JUST GIVE UP BE-CAUSE...
RRRUUURRRR
HUFF!
I GUESS KEEPING UP WITH A MAESTRO WAS IMPOSSIBLE AFTER ALL!
YOU'RE A TEENY-TINY BIT OUT-CLASSED!
NO ...!
ECO...
WE'RE FRIENDS, AREN'T WE, BRI-GITTE?!
ECO'S USUALLY SO SENSITIVE TO THE DIFFER-ENCE BETWEEN DRAGONS' RANKS...
FOR HER TO DESCRIBE IT AS JUST A SMALL GAP IS...
DARN IT...!
LIFT UP YOUR HEAD, OKAY? PLEASE ?!

LOOK, I MAY BE RIDING HER, BUT YOU'RE HER RIDER. GET IT TOGETHER.
IT'S JUST LIKE ASH SAID.
STRONG ENOUGH TO MAKE BRIGITTE INTO A MAESTRO ...!
IF I WERE STRONGER...
KRUM
ASH! PLEASE DO SOMETHING --!!!
BUT I... JUST WASN'T CAPABLE OF IT...!
KRUM
KRUM
KRUM
ASH ...!!
NGH --!
KRUM
KRUMM
FORCED OSCAR TO MAKE YOU A PROMISE, DIDN'T YOU!?
YOU...

IF YOU WIN, OSCAR HAS TO GIVE UP ON YOU AND ECO... AND ME!
TO BE HONEST... IT MADE ME SO HAPPY...
TO HAVE SOME-ONE... STAND UP FOR ME LIKE THAT.
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME HAD EVER HAPPENED.
WHIP
YOU'VE BEEN MY FIRST FOR A LOT OF THINGS!
YOU'RE ALWAYS EXCEEDING MY EXPECTA-TIONS!
ISN'T THAT TRUE --?!
AND THAT'S WHY I NEED YOU TO...

SHOW ME!!
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN BLOCK ALL OF HER SHOTS!
NOT GOOD.
ASH BLAKE !!!
FIGHT BACK BY DOING SOMETHING NOT EVEN I'M CAPABLE OF...

KURIKROOM


DISSI-
PATE
JUST
LIKE ALL
THIS
SMOKE?
AND
NOW -
THAT IT'S
DONE,
WILL MY
FEEL-
INGS...
IT'S
OVER.
FRRRRR
I...

SPRING
GLEAM
ぽう
SO MUCH MAGIC ...!
DID HE PUSH ECO INTO AWAK-ENING ...?!
NO.
IF ASH RIDES ANY OTHER DRAGON THAN THE EARTHIA BRIGITTE, IT'D BREAK THE RULES. HE'D BE DISQUALIFIED.
BUT...
IN THAT CASE...
WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING HERE?!

GAH!
WH-WHAT'S HAP-PENING?!
MY... MY STAR MARK ...!
RRRUUUURRRR
to be continued.

RRRUUUURRRR

GAH!
WH-WHAT'S HAP-PENING ?!
MY... MY STAR MARK ...!
to be continued.

AFTERWORD

It's me, RAN.

Thanks so much to everyone who's picked up the manga version of Dragonar Academy!

We're now in the second part of the "Oscar Arc," so we're learning about her ambitions and about how Chevron works.

And now Ash is getting closer to Rebecca... and fighting her?!

We'll see what happens in the next volume! I hope you'll join me again then!

SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

DRAGONAR ACADEMY VOLUME 11

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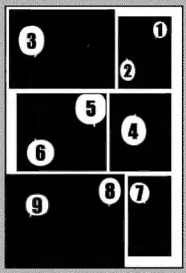
READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from ***right to left***, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!



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